Investment Summit, dialogue between interested private sector organisations on cooperation in infrastructure, provision of increased bilateral air services, contracts with major high tech clusters in UK etc. The existing trade promotion facilities would be available to Indian industry in trading with Britain.

Comparative Cost of Solar Energy

*23. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how does the cost of solar energy compare with other sources of energy;

(b) what are the advantages to the consumers for preferring this;

(c) whether it costs less to the consumer; and

(d) whether it also ensures continued supply in different weather conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) Solar energy can be harnessed through two routes, namely solar photovoltaic and solar thermal, by direct conversion to electricity and heat energy respectively. At present, the initial costs of both types of solar energy systems are higher compared to the cost of conventional energy systems. This is partly on account of the fact that solar energy systems use expensive materials, some of which are imported. However, considering the fact that solar systems do not reqire any fuel, the recurring costs are lower. Therefore, the cost of some products such as solar water heaters, solar cookers and solar lanterns can be lower than that of conventional energy products when calculated over the life of the systems. Among other advantages of solar energy systems are long life, reliability, low maintenance and no pollution.

(d) Continuous supply of energy can be ensured through "storage of electricity in batteries or of heat in appropriate storage systems. As- a

result, solar energy systems can be used for several days in most weather conditions.

Killings in J and K

*24. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI;
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 650 innocent persons including 92 women and 32 children were killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during 2004;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the number of women and children killed by terrorists in 2004 is more as compared to year-wise figures since 1990; and

(d) if not, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) 707 innocent civilians including 92 women and 32 children were killed by terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir in 2004.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Year-wise figures from 1990 to 2004 is given in the Statement.

Statement

Year-wise figures of women and children killed by terrorists in J& K

Year	Women Killed	Children Killed	Total civilians killed
1	2	3	4
1990	30	—	461
1991	63	03	382
1992	64	08	634
1993	59	12	747